

2-25-1907

Letter from Ruby Willis, Wellesley, Massachusetts,
to Dr. and Mrs. William H. Willis, Reading,
Massachusetts, 1907 February 25

Ruby Willis

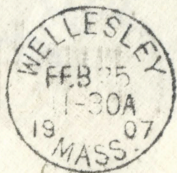
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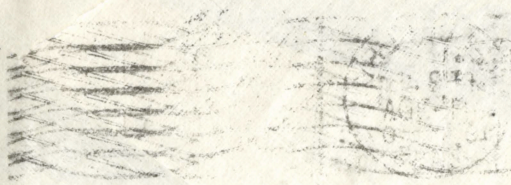
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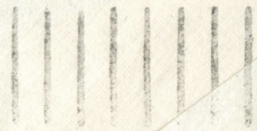
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Mr. and Mrs. William H. Willis,
Reading,
Massachusetts.



READING, MA
FEB 25
4 30 P M





Feb. 25, 1907.

My dear ones at home, -

It is just a week to-day since I came back but it seems a great deal longer than that. We have had quite an exciting week here, with Glee Club and all, but now we've got to settle down to real work.

Tuesday night the flunk notes came out and I am happy to say that I did not receive one. I didn't expect to get any except in Bible perhaps, but I didn't get one even in that,

and I hope my family will feel sufficiently impressed with the brilliancy of their relative, when I tell them that there never were anywhere near so many people flunked as there have been this year. Over 150 freshmen are said to have flunked, many of them flunking from 6 to 14 hours. Isn't that perfectly terrible? A good many of them will have to go home. And in our class and the upper classes flunking is quite the fashion. O, I tell you it was exciting Tuesday night! I had been over to Wood and when I came back about 9:30, the house was in the most excited state. The notes had

been absent over from college sometime between 9 and 9:30, and though there weren't very many for our horse, there were enough to cause a good deal of excitement.

The most unexpected people flunked the most unexpected subjects, and in the Junior class, it makes a good deal of difference, for you know practically all the elections for Seniors are held in June of this year, when a good many will still have conditions, and so can't be candidates for any offices.

I feel so sorry about Helen Curtis; she flunked Economics, a course which is supposed to be rather easy, and I think she would have been President of the Christian Association next year, but of course now she can't be. She feels terribly about it, I think, though she doesn't say anything. Helen Curtis, too, flunked Botany, and several other girls who are prominent in the Junior class and who have never dreamed of flunking anything. So I hope you people will realize what a wonder your daughter is not to have flunked. Marion Haines flunked Bible & English, 5 hours, and Edith Hursh, Eng. Literature, 3 hours, and Louise Eng. & Eng. Lit. 5 hours. It was terribly gloomy after the notes came out at college, for so many

the day after



had them, and it was perfectly terrible
that night at Noanett, so the girls
said. More than half of Noanett got
one or more flunks, and some of them
went into hysterics at a great rate.
The excitement is a little over now, but
will probably break out again in a
week or so when the credit cards come
out. I certainly do not expect straight
credit as I had last year, but I
guess I will get the necessary 8 hours.
I know I have credit in Math., and
I must tell you about my Math.

paper. You know I had to do a paper
in Math instead of having an exam. and
it took me about 15 hours to do it. I
passed it in the Friday morning I
came home, you know, and I felt
quite well satisfied with it, but now
I am proud & haughty about it.

Wednesday Miss Chandler gave our
papers back and mine was almost
perfect; and what do you think, she
passed Louise Garford's paper. (Louise
is a senior) and my paper all around
the class and asked the girls to
examine them carefully, particularly
the drawings. I was so pleased I
didn't know what to do, for Miss

Chander rarely gives praise, and then besides I'd rather do well in Math. than in anything else. I was quite puffed up, I can tell you, and I shall ~~certainly keep the paper always.~~

Thursday night I went into Boston to the College Settlement, Denison House, with about 15 of the girls, and we had a very interesting time. Some of the freshmen gave a little play for the people, and then ~~the girls~~ Mrs. Dudley took us over the house, so we could see the children in their classes. One class was of tiny Italian children, who speak Italian but cannot read or write it, and a pretty young Italian girl was teaching them. Some older children were rehearsing a little Italian play, and in another room some little boys were doing manual-training.

Friday (Washington's Birthday) we had a celebration in College Hall Chapel, ~~speeches~~ from some of the Faculty & Trustees and some of the girls. We all had little flags and sang patriotic songs, and had quite a gay time. Friday & Sat. nights were the Glee Club concerts, and very many men have been floating around here ever since Thursday night. It's quite exciting, I can tell you; poor Denison is nearly worn out, for she feels it her duty to stay around & chaperone all the time. I guess the excitement is nearly over now, and we've got to get to work. Anyway I've got to this morning, so I will close with a great deal of love to all, from Ruby.